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Congress Repeals "Little Red Rider"; District Board Adopts Own Policy

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Teachers and other School officers in the District of Columbia heaved a great sigh of relief on May 18th, when they learned that President Roosevelt had signed the repeal of the vexatious "Little Red Rider." This rider had been attached to the District appropriation measure as passed by Congress in 1935, and was a stipulation that the subject of communism be not taught in the classrooms nor discussed outside the schools by employees of the District of Columbia Board of Education.

Not only teachers but janitors as well were obliged, when receiving their pay each month, to sign a declaration that they had neither taught nor talked about communism, either in school or out.

Since the removal of this absurd restriction through its repeal last month, the District of Columbia Board of Education has set up a clean-cut policy of its own with regard to instruction in democratic ideals which should accomplish the desired end of preventing radical indoctrination without, as under the Red Rider, putting blinders on the pupils and gags on teachers' lips.

The Board's resolution, adopted June 3, is as follows:—

"The essential outstanding purpose of an American public school system is the education of our youth for intelligent and loyal citizenship.

"This end can in large measure be achieved through the comparative study of all forms of government, the history of other nations, and especially—and most important—by thorough study and understanding of our own history and of our ideals of democratic government under a constitution. The courses of study in the District of Columbia public schools, with their ample provisions for such study and understanding, promote faith in, loyalty to, and appreciation of American institutions and the American principle of government.

"Under such a program of instruction the satisfactory character of teaching depends to a great extent upon the result it achieves in patriotic citizenship. Without such result teaching is unsatisfactory.

"Under such a program of instruction there can be no place for teaching which has the purpose or effect, directly or indirectly, of indoctrinating pupils with any philosophy of government, by whatever name called, antagonistic to that of the United States. This board has not heretofore countenanced, and will not hereafter countenance such subversive indoctrination in the public schools of the District of Columbia.

"The foregoing constitutes a declaration of educational policy."

Dr. Frank W. Ballou, Superintendent of Schools, expressed gratification at having a comprehensive statement not only for the public but for his teachers as well.

The Board's declaration was drafted by Mrs. Henry Grattan Doyle, President of the Board, in collaboration with Robert A. Maurer, Vice-President.

A Strong Base for Social Studies

CAPEN AND MELCHIOR'S

My Worth to the World

Studies in Citizenship

A DYNAMIC book of vigorous substance personal in its appeal through its well-planned student activities, *My Worth to the World* provides a rich array of material for the social studies. Its factual data, presented vividly and progressively, covers seven important units:—

1. **The pupil as an individual and as a member of groups and communities**
2. **Civic welfare in its relation to health, safety, recreation, education and civic pride**
3. **Civic responsibilities—the care of the handicapped, poverty and crime**
4. **Important problems of civic improvement in reference to the modern family, city, and farm, transportation and communication, the alien and the citizen**
5. **Industrial and social activities, occupations, the world of workers, sharing wealth, enjoying wealth, and some disturbing economic problems**
6. **Nationalism—important facts about government—local, state, and national—financing the government, and public opinion and party politics**
7. **Internationalism—world citizenship, its relation to nationalism, the interdependence of nations, facts about foreign countries, agencies for peace.**

The information presented in this book has a particular significance and value today. Every pupil should have the benefit of such instruction.

Authors: LOUISE I. CAPEN, Ph.D., *Head of Social Science Department, Barringer High School, Newark, N. J.*, and D. MONTFORT MELCHIOR, Pd.D., *Supervisor of High School Instruction and Head of the Department of Social Studies, Girard College, Philadelphia.*

Illustrated 587 pages Price $1.56

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Editorials

Business Beckons

ONE of the most encouraging signs of economic improvement is the great increase in the number of jobs open this year to graduates of colleges. A recent survey of fifty colleges revealed a heavier demand for newly trained college men and women than at any time since 1929. Some of the college placement officers assert that the demand is greater than at any time in history. Many corporations are sending out scouts to pick the best available workers, and the initial salaries offered are higher by from $5 to $25 a month than they were a year ago.

All this is fine for the members of 1937. These young people may have had to scrape along with little money and many of them have been obliged to earn the larger part of their expenses. Here the National Youth Administration has helped, though often in a way to spoil the recipients of a thinly disguised dole—the work done being merely nominal.

To the extent that this year's seniors have been forced to view life seriously rather than in the light of a prolonged picnic at parental expense, the experience may have been salutary. There are cases, no doubt, in which the impact of economic pressure upon undergraduate minds has caused the espousal of certain radical ideas. Most of those affiliations will be broken up as soon as the young Bolshevists step out into the workaday world. If a residue of radicalism lingers on in sublimated form, as a sane determination to favor progress more than reaction, this will be for the nation's gain.

On the whole it is better to have been at school during the seven lean years, 1930 to 1936 inclusive, than to have been commencing a business career in those same years—as many a college graduate of the recent past will tell you as he fills your car with gasoline or delivers a package at your door.

Members of the graduating classes this month seem due for special congratulations. Fortune did some first-rate timing for them.

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Effects on Teaching

OF COURSE the improvement in business conditions should lead sooner or later to a reduction in the pressure for teaching jobs. Much of the inferior personnel that has clamored for teaching posts as mere money-yielding opportunities will cease to clamor. Soon there may be a general rescinding of those resolves to engage no married women and no persons from out of town if any one residing in the home town is available. In other words—the schools may look for a certain amount of emancipation, as recompense for some of the superior teacher material sure to be drawn aside into commercial pursuits.

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Democracy Can Stand Daylight

CONGRESS has at length recovered from its nervousness over "red" propaganda in the District of Columbia public schools, and has tossed the famous "Little Red Rider" into the discard.

Much of the credit for this return to sanity is due to Mrs. Henry Grattan Doyle who, as president of the District of Columbia Board of Education, has consistently labored for the lifting of the ban. The revised regulation as enacted by the Board of Education seems to insure against abuses of academic freedom without needless curtailment. It is not the American concept of education to withhold information from boys and girls old enough to think for themselves. Nor is our democracy in need of such poor devices to safeguard its future.

The "Red Rider" was but another manifestation of the same panicky state of mind that caused an epidemic of loyalty oath laws—most of them still clinging tenaciously to the statute books of the states which, like our own, were foolish enough to adopt them.

Red riders and teachers' oath laws served mainly to make young Americans believe some one was afraid to let them know the truth about certain political systems.

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Educating for Abundance

MAN shall not live by bread alone. . . . No—he must have cake. He must have something beyond mere existence. But the cake may be entirely material—in which case it soon gets to taste like bread. Or it may be spiritual—revitalizing and forever refreshing. Education that does not open the mind and heart to realities beyond the sordid reach of money, is not worthy of the name. Education must be practical. But unless it has an eternal as well as a temporal aspect, it entirely misses the greater part of its responsibility.

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With this issue The Journal of Education bids its readers farewell until September 6. A pleasant and refreshing summer to you all!

Readers' Forum

This Social Unrest

In state and federal government, in the professions such as law, medicine, engineering, education, research and religion, in the home, in business and banking, and in the social life of man, conditions of unrest are present. What is it all about?

Look at education in particular. What is all this "milling around" about? A feeling of rushing hither and yon descends upon us as soon as we step upon the threshold of the building; and scarcely can we shake it off when at the close of the day we go home with "home work" under our arms.

This confusion and unrest not only exists externally but likewise internally.

I have thought considerably about this problem, and have arrived at a tentative solution. My explanation is of a psycho-social nature, and runs somewhat as follows: We know that when an individual is learning something for the first time that a mento-emotional state of confusion and bewilderment is arrived at just before the final stage of order and insight is reached.

This uncomfortable state of being is probably the result of the crumbling of previously formed mento-emotional patterns which no longer are adequate. New configurations must be formed, and the individual experiences new insights, as soon as these new *Gestalten* are formed. From this time on order replaces confusion. The same conditions maintain in a social organization. This state of confusion is always a sign of new adjustments whether they be made and used by the individual alone or later accepted by the group; and closely upon its heels follows new insight resulting from the formation of mento-emotional patterns.

In the light of the above psycho-social analysis what can be said about the confused thinking and diffused efforts operative in the present social order? If we can keep up the fight to reach new insights while we tolerate the feelings accompanying the "turbulent waters," if we can keep our balance sufficiently well so as to know which "band wagon" to hop upon, if we keep our historical perspective while we struggle day by day, then we will be the better for it, and new insights must follow as the night follows day.

These new ways of seeing things and doing things will be built around a *power age* and will replace older patterns built around our present-day *machine age*. With increased responsibilities will come additional demands upon the profession of education. Men in control must be big men, and to make them big is a major job of education.

JOHN W. DICKEY
State Normal School
Newark, New Jersey

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Traffic Lights in Corridor

In the April 19, 1937, edition of The Journal of Education I note on Page 198, "Traffic Study, New Course Opens in Peabody Schools." I was interested in that article, and wish to say that the Charles J. Emerson School, in Stoneham, Mass., has a tall model of Traffic Lights which have been used very successfully during the past two years to teach safety lessons in crossing highways.

Our light is set up in our first floor corridor, and is governed by an electric switch which will cause the lights to turn red, green or amber as the lesson is taught.

Off this corridor are two first grade classrooms and two second grade rooms. The pupils march up and down the corridor as the lights are flashed the different colors.

It gives a splendid opportunity for the pupils to observe the colors and to learn the meanings of the colors. Thus, when they see these lights on highway crossings they know which light means safety and which means danger for them.

This traffic model was made by older boys in the Stoneham schools. We have found this traffic model a great help in teaching safety lessons in the schools.

ALICE M. WALSH
Principal
Charles J. Emerson School
Stoneham, Massachusetts

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Good Reading Habits

Fortunate is he who is early attracted to good books, and acquires a taste for choice reading. This habit, like most others that are to continue for life, must be formed in the golden years of youth when impressions take deepest root to bear richest fruition in riper years.

GEORGE W. LYON
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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The News Digest
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Paul C. Stetson

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Dr. Paul C. Stetson, superintendent of Indianapolis public schools, died recently of heart disease. He was fifty-two years old. Dr. Stetson was an educator for thirty years and served in 1933-34 as president of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association. His father, who died recently, was president of Kalamazoo (Mich.) College, from which the son was graduated in 1907. In the same year Dr. Paul Stetson received an A.B. degree from the University of Chicago, where he took an A.M. degree in 1917. Butler University at Indianapolis conferred an LL.D. degree upon him in 1932.

Cody Re-elected

Led Party Ticket In Spring Elections

LANSING, Mich.—In the biennial spring election Dr. Frank Cody was re-elected to the State Board of Education. The popular superintendent of the Detroit schools led his party ticket. He will begin his twenty-fourth year as a member of the board January 1. Supervision of the state teachers' colleges at Ypsilanti, Kalamazoo, Mt. Pleasant, and Marquette is one of the important duties of this board. In the same election Dr. Eugene B. Elliot was returned to the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, a position he has filled very acceptably for two years.

Contribute

Old Age Act Taxes Student Workers

SYRACUSE, N. Y. — Students, teachers, and graduates who take jobs this Summer as waiters, musicians, bellhops or any work covered by the Social Security Act are workers within the meaning of the old-age benefits feature of that act. This explanation was given by C. A. Edson, Syracuse field representative of the Social Security Board, who said that he had received many inquiries from Syracuse University students who wanted to know if deductions would be made from their pay in Summer positions. Deductions would be made, according to Mr. Edson, and earnings from such jobs would go toward building up total wage credits and count toward giving students and teachers old-age benefits when they reach the age of sixty-five and are no longer employed.

Cadet Teacher System Upheld In Boston in Reply to Charges

BOSTON. — Alleged abuses in the cadet-teacher system in the Boston schools were denied and the system was defended by members of the School Committee recently, at a hearing in which Mrs. Esther Peterson, field agent for the American Federation of Teachers of the A. F. of L., charged that cadets were used to do the work of regular teachers and urged a curtailment in the enrollment at Boston Teachers College.

Mrs. Peterson, spokesman for an investigating committee appointed by the Boston Central Labor Union, said that cadets, who receive 50 cents a day for carfares and luncheon while teaching three periods a day in order to get the 140 days required experience, should be paid $3 a day, as compared to the $5 paid each day to temporary teachers.

As explained by Miss Mary C Mellyn, assistant superintendent of schools in charge of practice and training, the cadet system was established as a voluntary plan whereby the prospective teachers, graduates of Boston Teachers College, could obtain the necessary year's experience by teaching under the supervision of experienced teachers. Originally, she said, the girls were given no money, but following the depression the School Committee voted to give them 50 cents a day for carfare and luncheon.

Miss Mellyn said that all of the teachers and cadets know that they can bring their problems on teaching matters to her, but that in her thirty years of service she has never had a complaint from a cadet.

Maurice J. Tobin and Dr. Joseph V. Lyons, members of the School Committee, said that if it came to a vote they would be opposed to abolition of the cadet system, saying that the system was adopted as an aid to the prospective teachers and that to abolish it would be an injustice to them. Dr. Lyons said that, in some cases, girls would have to wait twelve years before they could secure a teaching place to earn the year's experience necessary for qualifying as a Boston teacher.

A. G. Balcom

Educator Honored By Hundreds of Friends

NEWARK, N. J. — Arthur Grant Balcom, assistant superintendent of public schools since 1918, was tendered a testimonial banquet and reception recently in honor of his completion of fifty-one years of service as an educator. More than 500 friends gathered to render homage to the veteran school administrator. Mr. Balcom started his teaching career in 1887 as principal of the New Providence, N. J., school. From 1889 until 1895 he was principal and superintendent of schools in Kearney, N. J. He joined the Newark educational system in 1895 as principal of the Franklin School and in 1918 he became assistant superintendent in the department of visual instruction. Commenting on the testimonial, Mr. Balcom said that the occasion "gladdened my heart beyond expression."

American History

Study Held Need As Democracy Aid

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—A Harvard faculty committee recently condemned as "deplorable" what it called "American ignorance of American history and literature." In a foreword to a reading list designed to encourage study of history among students the committee declared: "Unless citizens of a democracy are aware of the means by which their country has become what it is, the efforts and sacrifices that have been made in the past to secure liberty and opportunity for the present, they are apt to exchange their birthright for the proverbial mess of pottage." Names of the faculty members on the committee were not made public.

Congress Employs Boys Under 16 But Provides a School for Them

WASHINGTON.—The most vivid course in civics in the world is probably that being given this year to the forty-five boys who serve as pages in the United States Congress. These youngsters, who have ringside seats at history-making debates, now study about them after hours in the Pages School, held in the basement of the Capitol.

The current session of the school also finds the faculty increased to six, and the curriculum extended to include for the first time physical education, commercial law and economic subjects.

Thus the pages, who range in age from twelve to sixteen, now have an even broader course and study under more favorable conditions than those in many high schools. No class group consists of more than nine students, and most of the classes are smaller. Teachers who have done graduate work in universities give courses in English, history, mathematics, chemistry, physics, Latin, German, French, typewriting and shorthand, as well as the subjects added this term.

Moreover, the Pages School has historic associations possessed by no other institution in the country. The school desks, for instance, are the ones used by Congressmen from the time of Abraham Lincoln to that of Theodore Roosevelt, when chairs were substituted for desks because more space was needed.

Taxpayers do not have to bear the expense of the Pages' School. A specified amount, depending upon the number of subjects taken, is deducted from the pages' pay of $100 a month to defray school costs.

Almost every State in the Union is represented in the school. Public schools freely accept the credits given by this school. Frequently pages upon completing their high school courses in the Pages' School transfer their credits to their home town high school.

Campus Crier

Student Shouts News from Balcony

LAKELAND, Fla.—Chiding college students for devoting too little time to the reading of daily newspapers, Dr. Ludd M. Spivey, president of Florida Southern College, here, recently borrowed a custom from the Puritan days of New England by appointing a campus crier to stand on a balcony and give news of the world through a megaphone as students change classes. "Those of you who do not wish to know what is happening in the world can place your hands over your ears," Dr. Spivey told the students. Each morning, except Sunday, the campus crier takes his stand on a balcony of one of the main buildings and reports the affairs of the world in stentorian fashion. He reads a balanced digest prepared by Jack Johnson, a journalism student, who combines last minute news from morning papers with briefs from evening papers of the preceding day.

Centennial

Colby Junior College Observes Occasion

NEW LONDON, N. H.—Academic guests from seventy colleges and 2,000 alumni, parents and friends attended the celebration of the centennial of Colby Junior College in the middle of June. A historical pageant, commencement exercises and addresses by Dr. Roswell G. Ham, president-elect of Mount Holyoke College, and Governor Francis P. Murphy were some of the highlights of the centennial program. During its first hundred years Colby has answered to four names; it has been once a school for boys and girls; twice a school for girls. President H. Leslie Sawyer, who has steered the college through its last transition, now heads a faculty of thirty-two and a student body of 317.

Not Exact

Numbers Declared Only Approximate

NEW YORK.—When school children are taught that "ten times ten equals 100," they are misled, because the answer may range anywhere from ninety to 110, according to a survey on "Approximate Computation" made public by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Schools have neglected to teach children that most numbers are not "exact," but only "approximate," Dr. Aaron Bakst, research associate in mathematics at Teachers College, Columbia University, author of the survey, reports. About 95 per cent of the arithmetic used in life involves approximate numbers, yet schools do not mention this fact to the students, he declares. As a result, each year millions of young boys and girls receive inadequate instruction in mathematics. When a housewife buys linoleum for her kitchen floor, and asks for five square yards, she will not get 225 square feet. Because the linoleum was only approximated to the nearest foot and cannot be measured exactly to the inch, she will probably get between 200 and 250 square feet. The same principle holds for most of the other numbers that are used in the everyday life of the individual.

Valedictorian

Four Sisters Win Honors

READING, Mass.—The selection of Miss Cecilie Berle for the position of valedictorian of the graduating class of the high school this year completes a unique record of scholastic achievement. Miss Berle is the fourth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore P. Berle to be chosen for the highest honor in the graduating exercises as a result of attaining the highest marks for scholarship in their respective classes. The first of the quartet to achieve this honor was Miss Marjorie P. Berle, who was valedictorian of the class of 1924. The following year, 1925, Miss Natalie W. Berle was the valedictorian. The third daughter was Miss Dorothy W. Berle of the class of 1929.

Plans New Buildings

$2,225,000 School Program for Newton

NEWTON, Mass.—A school building program involving the expenditure of $2,225,000 over a period of ten years was completed at a recent meeting of sub-committees of the Newton board of aldermen and the Newton school committee. The plan, which involves the creation or replacement of between six and eight buildings to house Newton's rapidly growing school population, will be submitted for the approval of the school committee and then to the board of aldermen. The first item on the list calls for replacement of the Franklin School, in West Newton, and the last, for a junior high school in the Waban section at an estimated cost of about $750,000.

Unorthodox

School Janitor Gives Commencement Address

DUNEDIN, Fla.—Graduation exercises at Dunedin Junior High School recently were unusual in one respect—the school's janitor was the commencement speaker. Albert Lando, the janitor, a former actor and stage director, was a favorite of the ninth grade graduates. The class recently voted to have Principal J. C. Hall make one address and Lando the other. He did, and drew a big hand from his youthful admirers.

Sale Halted

Court Sets Hearing For Georgia College

MACON, Ga.—A court order halted the sale of Wesleyan College for Women, oldest institution of its kind in the country, a few minutes before it was to have been put on the auction block under foreclosure proceedings. On the petition of a group of bondholders, the court set a hearing date for interested parties to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed to operate the properties as a college for women for the benefit of the bondholders. Diplomas were handed, however, to forty-six seniors at the ninety-ninth commencement on the campus which now represents a $1,800,000 plant. The college sold a $1,000,000 bond issue in 1928 with its properties as security. Only $2,000 of the bonds have been retired. Started as the Methodist School for Women in 1836, the college retains its Methodist affiliation.

Films Help

Pupils Learn Rapidly From Talkies

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — In the modernization of education, the motion picture has become our newest tool in the art of expression, and offers the most complete and the swiftest tool yet devised by man in the opinion of Frederick William Orth, principal of the Virginia Road School here. "The influence of the motion picture is tremendous and has genuine educational significance," he says. "Recent scientific investigations have revealed, for example, that children not only learn more rapidly from motion pictures, but retain the information longer. The motion picture has surpassed the printing press in its capacity to educate, and impressions gained are lasting and sometimes even increase with time. It has the power to change attitudes for or against social sanctions, political practices, religious concepts, emotional experience, and its influence upon education is the same for both young and old."

Fired

Woman Ousted As College Head

DURANT, Okla.—Mrs. Kate Galt Zaneis was ousted recently as president of the Southeastern Teachers' College when she refused to resign at the suggestion of the State School Board. No reason for the ouster was given by the board other than they considered it "best for the school." The board's action coincided with the recognition banquet tendered Mrs. Zaneis by the Durant townspeople in appreciation of the achievements the college had made during her two years' presidency. In that space of time the school's enrollment had increased by more than 300. Mrs. Zaneis gained national acclaim when she succeeded in equalizing salaries of men and women professors, using as the defining basis the three considerations of experience, teaching load, qualifications. Since Mrs. Zaneis' removal several resignations from the school's faculty have come in protest against the alleged interference of politics with education.

No-Men

More Intelligent Than Yes-Men

NEW YORK.—The world appears to be made up of just two kinds of persons, yes-men and no-men, with a small sprinkling of habitual hedgers. Acting as a bombshell to explode previous attempts to measure personality, this conclusion was reached by Dr. Irving Lorge, of Teachers College, Columbia University. It came as a result of his study of eighty-four persons on a WPA project. Interesting differences between the yes-men and the no-men have already been discovered by Dr. Lorge, and he plans further exploration along this line. Self-confidence appears to be enjoyed by the yes-men and denied to the no-men. No-men also seem to be lacking in "sociability," but the yes-men do not appear to have a parallel abundance of whatever that takes. No-men, Dr. Lorge finds, are more intelligent.

New Unit

Building Given To Lawrenceville

LAWRENCEVILLE, N. J.—Dedication ceremonies for the new James Cameron Mackenzie administration building at Lawrenceville school were held recently in conjunction with the annual alumni week-end, which was attended by 300 alumni. Named after the late headmaster of the school from 1883 to 1899, the new building is the gift of Edward S. Harkness, New York philanthropist. The new structure was necessitated by the introduction this year of the conference system of teaching. The present administration building will be renovated to provide additional conference teaching rooms.

Anxiety Over Private Colleges As Income Decreases $4,000,000

PHILADELPHIA.—The study of the endowment income and investments of colleges and universities of the United States by the Financial Advisory Service of the American Council on Education, which recently prompted Dr. George F. Zook, president of the council, to urge a "serious investigation" of the problem, shows that endowment income of forty-five institutions holding nearly 40 per cent of all endowment funds in the country declined $4,000,000 in 1934-35 from the total it would have reached had the rate been at the 1925-26 level.

Applying this measure to all endowed institutions of higher learning in the country, it was found, hypothetically, that the depression loss to higher education generally amounted to $11,000,000 in 1934-35.

"More important than what happened in 1934-35," said the Financial Advisory Service, "is the fact that published reports coming to the office of the service for 1935-36 show no material improvement in endowment income for the year just ended. Moreover, the best forecasts for 1937 indicate that the rates of return which may be secured on first class investments will remain low."

Dr. Zook, in recommending investigation of the endowment problem, said in part: "Indeed the economic setting in which the privately controlled colleges and universities now operate has changed in so many ways in recent years as to make it highly desirable that there should be a thorough and comprehensive study of the economic forces affecting the present and future development of the privately endowed college or university."

Starting at slightly more than $19,000,000 in 1925-26, the income of the forty-five institutions studied by the service increased rather regularly until it exceeded $30,000,000 in 1930-31. From this high point the income gradually fell to a depression low of $25,000,000 in 1933-34. It remained about the same in 1934-35. Thus the income of the smaller group declined about 36 per cent, or nearly twice as much as the 20 per cent decline experienced by the larger group, the report pointed out.

Retires

H. P. Knight Ends Active School Career

SOMERVILLE, Mass. — Retiring after more than forty years of service in the Somerville schools, Harlan P. Knight, principal of the S. Newton Cutler School, declares that the greatest problem facing educators today is the question of teaching morals. "Public schools as an institution today are slipping as far as the question of morality is concerned," says Mr. Knight. "Something should be done soon to rectify an alarming situation. Whether it is a problem for the schools or the home is a question. I think that the home should deal with the problem more than the schools. Undoubtedly the schools will improve on methods of teaching but as far as any revolutionary changes the public schools have reached a peak in efficiency. The use of movies to aid eye-minded children will probably increase when proper educational films are made available." Mr. Knight believes the tragedy of education today is that young men, after graduating from high school and college, and much better equipped than graduates of many years ago, must stand on street corners, or waste time waiting for a job.

Doubt Remains

New High School's Status Unsettled

NEWBURYPORT, Mass.—Ownership of the new $500,000 high school here still was in doubt recently following the close of an all-day conference in which an effort was made to settle the status of the school. Mayor Andrew J. Gillis held to his position that the construction company should reimburse the city for the alleged failure to rub down the concrete ceilings. He has not accepted the building. The conference was held by representatives of the city and the builder of the school. The city has occupied the structure for several months but owes about $60,000 on it and cannot pay the debt because a check for $47,500, part of the government grant, was lost in the mail and has never been replaced.

Graduates

Grandparents Win Chicago Diplomas

CHICAGO.—With more knowledge of the American Constitution than the average native-born can boast, some 700 men and women from foreign countries were graduated here recently with diplomas which will help them to get their naturalization papers. They were mothers and fathers, young folks, and even grandmothers and grandfathers, ranging all the way from sixteen years to seventy-eight, who marched across the platform of the Field Museum here to receive diplomas which mean many weeks of study. They had been attending classes sponsored by the Chicago Board of Education in school buildings, settlement houses, libraries, and community centres. But they were only a part of the more than 6,900 men and women who are attending these classes. The number creeps up from year to year as industry chooses its employees from those applicants who are citizens, and as more people become interested in obtaining naturalization papers, according to Miss Frances K. Wetmore, supervisor of adult education in Chicago.

Required Course

High Schools Plan Road Safety Study

PORTLAND, Ore. — A complete course in traffic safety will be initiated as a required subject in all Portland high schools when the term opens next September. This action is part of a wide program for highway safety. Through the co-operation of the Oregon State Motor Association, the text for the course will be based on material from the association's safety library, booklets from the American Automobile Association and a special pamphlet prepared by Earl Snell, Secretary of State. Since February 4, high school students have been offered, but not required to take, a one-term course in traffic safety.

Free Bus Service

Firmly Opposed For Private Schools

LOWELL, Mass. — Repeal of the law providing free transportation for pupils in private and parochial schools was sought in a resolution adopted with only one dissenting vote by the 800 delegates to the annual state conference, recently, of the Congregational and Christian churches. "A violation of the fundamental principle of separation of church and state" is represented in this law, the Rev. Edward C. Camp, of Watertown, who presented the resolution, declared.

Commencement

Music and Dancing Replace Oratory

BRIDGEPORT, Ill.—Boys and girls of the Lawrence County Grade School were graduated recently without benefit of speech-making. Instead there was music and dancing, tap exhibitions, ukelele, guitar, mandolin, and vocal selections, and a minute of silence in honor of pupils and officials who died since last commencement.

Talking Picture Experiments Raise Marks in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Mass.—A judicious mixing of pleasure with instruction—as can be done through talking pictures—can add much appeal to educational processes, according to Miss Evelyn T. Holston, general manager of the junior high schools in Springfield, where sound movies have been introduced with conspicuous success.

Miss Holston, telling the School Committee of the first tests with talking pictures, declared: "So far we are convinced that pupil interest and enthusiasm have definitely influenced learning. Until recently we have been stupidly forgetful of the importance of emotional reactions and emotional training in relation to education."

The tests contrasted the improvement in learning of a group to whom a talking picture, bearing on the class work, had been shown, and the response of a control group which did not see the picture. The experimental group saw the picture twice and in the interval between participated in discussions of the subject—which showed their range of understanding had increased perceptibly.

After the second showing the experimental pupils took the test again and the class median improved eight points; the lowest individual score rose from 22 to 26 and the highest from 40 to 46 out of a possible 48 points. Commenting on these results Miss Holston said: "The greatest gain in information in this class was made on those points in the subject matter which had not been touched upon in class discussion. This could be due only to the information gained through the sound picture."

Miss Holston concluded: "The teachers who have had a part in this experiment express the hope that they may continue the work with the sound pictures next year. For we all believe that if the motion picture is to be of greatest service in the classroom it must become a regular and integral part of instruction, carefully selected and organized and used at appropriate stages of learning."

School Study

Includes Social And Physical Training

HARRISBURG, Penn.—The school of today is endeavoring to educate the pupils not only in intellectual attainments but also in their physical development, social attitudes, moral sense, civic relations and vocational adaptabilities, according to Lester K. Ade, Pennsylvania Superintendent of Public Instruction. In order to describe the pupil's growth in these vital phases of education, many schools throughout Pennsylvania are supplementing the traditional report cards with letters or statements to parents giving a fuller account of the student's work and activities. "The business of preparing children and youth for happy, successful living in contemporary society involves considerably more than good scholarship," said Dr. Ade. "Growth of personality, character, and general social adaptability are essential factors in the life of an individual today. These qualities are not always correlated with the learner's scholarship."

Big Fleet

State Schools Get 4,650 Busses

RALEIGH, N. C.—North Carolina's rural school bus fleet, largest state-owned transportation system in the world, is being prepared for the 1937 school year. Seven hundred new school busses have been purchased for immediate delivery. They will supplement the 3,995 which were in operation carrying farm children to and from school during the past year. In addition, extensive repairs are planned on many of the old busses to put them in shape for the constant grind of carrying heavy loads over country roads. Figures are not yet available for the 1936-37 school year, but during the previous year the North Carolina school bus system transported an average of 271,994 pupils to and from school daily for a total of 20,911,241 miles during the year. More than half of the drivers are high school students. Their safety record in transporting large numbers of younger students to school with few fatal or serious accidents has been widely commended.

War Toys

Teachers of Peace Education Ask Ban

NEW YORK. — Toy manufacturers will be asked to make "energetic toys and tools" to take the place of soldiers to develop immunity to war propaganda among children, spokesmen for the Teachers' Guild Associates announced here following a conference on peace education. Teachers from both private and public schools agreed it was undesirable to give "war playthings" a prominent place in the child's mind. At a certain age pupils want "vigorous" tools for their recreational activities, it was conceded, but it was agreed that there were toys more advantageous for this instinct than soldiers and guns. Mallets and hammers were included on the list. Several of the schools represented at the conference are already carrying on experiments in peace education through selected playthings, it was added.

Duties of Parents Left to College Dean Gildersleeve Tells Girls

NEW YORK. — American institutions of higher education for women have had to assume many functions formerly held by parents and carried on through family living, in the opinion of Dr. Virginia C. Gildersleeve, dean of Barnard College.

Addressing the members of Barnard's 1937 graduating class, Dean Gildersleeve mentioned social training, vocational guidance and even the development of poise and manners as relatively new functions of the college. Such a procedure, she said, made modern education for women an expensive process.

"I was speaking to the parents particularly," Dean Gildersleeve said, "and therefore, I thought it might be of interest to point out to them that colleges have taken over duties of parents to a very considerable extent during recent years in response partly to a popular demand.

"Secondly, as regards recreation, when I was an undergraduate, the college took no interest in our recreation. I happened to have an elder brother who brought me up to enjoy music. Today, an elaborately organized department of music helps students to enjoy opera and concerts, as well as to play and sing music themselves for recreational purposes. Furthermore, through training in games, sports, camping and other activities, the college helps students to develop means of enjoyment.

"Third, when I was an undergraduate, the college did not take any interest in training us to be citizens, nor in political education.

"Again, the matter of vocational advice, as to just what careers they should take up, is now considered the responsibility of the college. It helps a girl to decide what line of work she wants to follow and to find a job for her."

No Graduates

Commencement Held Just the Same

CANTON, N. Y. — St. Lawrence University Theological School held its seventy-seventh commencement the middle of June but no diplomas were issued. There was only one candidate for graduation at the little Universalist institution, but the faculty decided he had not prepared himself sufficiently for a Bachelor of Divinity degree. The commencement speaker, the Rev. L. Hamilton Garner, of Newark, N. J., did not lack an audience, however, when he delivered his sermon in Gunnison Memorial Chapel. About 150 young students who were graduating from the St. Lawrence College of Letters and Science attended and residents of this quiet village and the surrounding countryside turned out for the theological school's commencement. The seminary has held graduation exercises with no graduates at least once before.

More Pay

Held Teacher Need in Virginia

RICHMOND, Va. — Recommending full restoration of all salaries of Virginia public school teachers and substantial increases in most cases, Dr. Sidney B. Hall, state superintendent of public instruction, has called upon division superintendents and members of school boards throughout the State to make adequate provision for these increases in their 1937-38 budgets. "We cannot expect to attract to the teaching profession teachers of the best intelligence and ability unless we offer adequate compensation," Dr. Hall declared. "Neither can we hold those already in the profession unless we pay them salaries commensurate with their training, experience and the responsibilities placed upon them."

Rescind Rule

Teachers Permitted To Join Any Union

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Public school teachers are now free to join any union of their choice. By a vote of 11 to 1, with only James J. Fitzgerald dissenting, the Board of Education voted recently to rescind its twenty-year-old rule forbidding a school teacher to join a union if she wishes to hold her job.

3,000 Adults of WPA Schools In No. Carolina Exhibit Progress

RALEIGH, N. C. — Nearly 3,000 adult pupils enrolled in the state-conducted WPA schools gathered in Raleigh recently to take part in the state-wide educational program and exhibit at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. The students came from all parts of North Carolina in busses, trucks, trains and their own conveyances to bear testimony to the benefits they have received from the adult schools.

Many of the students had never before seen their state capitol or been half as far from their homes, but they were eager-eyed and intensely interested in their mission. It was a throng of fairly well-dressed people, and hardly appeared as having been considered illiterate little more than two years ago.

There were hundreds of them, however, who even a year ago would have had to use an X for their signature. In the department of exhibits were shown autograph books containing no fewer than 1,000 and well-written names of those who have learned to write while attending the adult schools. And when it is learned that the 3,000 represented approximately 25,000 adults enrolled throughout the State, the influence of the instruction that has been available to grown-ups who did not have the advantages of schooling in their youth is appreciated.

Many of the pupils have been busy learning something other than reading and writing, too. They have been given opportunity to learn trades and to develop hobbies, to make use of individual talents and to make things with their hands. The schools have gone into the more serious business of teaching home-making, budgeting, sanitation and buying and preparing wholesome food at reasonable cost.

Education Aids

Plays and Movies Meet School Problems

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Dr. Lester K. Ade, Pennsylvania superintendent of public instruction, said the other day that classroom instructions are being met in the schools of the State by use of school theatres, talking pictures, social studies and reading projects. The little theatre movement, he pointed out, is being capitalized for educational purposes in the Upper Darby Junior Secondary School. Students have an opportunity to write, direct and produce real plays through their club and assembly programs. Student directors not only assume the responsibility of coaching the dramatizations but of selecting the cast and assuming responsibility for various other duties. The secondary school at Coatesville has installed a complete talking picture equipment for the use of the students. Through these facilities a considerable amount of new supplementary materials of instruction has been made available in the various learning activities of the school.

Graduates

Mill Worker To Get Diploma

PAWTUCKET, R. I. — Closing of the Lynn textile mill in Phenix recently threw Raymond Tomlinson, twenty-six, out of a job, but he's happy for the leisure gives him more time to prepare for his graduation. Tomlinson, married and the father of a two-year-old daughter, will be among those receiving diplomas at the Pawtucket Senior High School graduation late this month, he confessed proudly. His graduation will culminate four years of intensive work by night in the mills and study by day in school.

To Seek Reds

Communism Probe Resolve Is Signed

BOSTON.—A resolve calling for an investigation of Communistic activities in Massachusetts was signed by Governor Hurley recently. Prior to adoption of the resolve by the Legislature it was stated that Communistic propaganda was being circulated among school children in various parts of the State to undermine the belief of the children in the present form of national government.

Riled

Lipsticking Serenity Irks Dean Pound's Sister

LINCOLN, Neb.—The modern college girl lacks fire and spirit, in the opinion of Dr. Louise Pound, professor of English language at Nebraska University. Dr. Pound, sister of Roscoe Pound, former dean of the Harvard Law School, recalled when girl students always were fighting or plotting. Today's maidens, she said, tend to be disinterested in everything. "It is most discouraging," she declared, "to have that young lady in my front row applying lipstick during my class. In reading some beautiful poem, when I am trying to keep myself from being moved to tears, or am trying to move my audience to tears, I find it a fascinating distraction to watch this girl smearing her mouth, oblivious."

Phelps Picked

Southern Educators Elect Secretary

ROCK HILL, S. C.—Dr. Shelton Phelps, president of Winthrop College, has been elected general secretary and treasurer of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, according to announcement made here.

Rewarded

Man Works Seven Years for Diploma

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—After having aided with preparation and distribution of more than 7,000 diplomas at the University of Pittsburgh in the last five years, Leroy Osterman will himself win a diploma at the university's sesquicentennial commencement this month. Mr. Osterman, who enrolled in 1930, has worked almost a full-time schedule in the university bookstore and, since 1932, in the registrar's office, while taking credits in evening classes, Summer school, and during the regular term. Now, after seven years, he will receive the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration.

Under Hammer

Sale of College Property Ordered

OAKLAND, Calif.—Announcement of a foreclosure sale of St. Mary's College properties recently wound up a depression-plagued expansion program at the college, nationally noted for its football teams. The Central Bank of Oakland, acting for bondholders, who own $1,111,000 in defaulted securities, announced the properties would be sold late in June to the highest bidder.

Inquiry Barred

Court Halts Hearing Of Charges Against Principal

HORNELL, N. Y. — A scheduled hearing of charges of "inefficiency and incompetency" preferred against Edward W. Cooke, principal of Hornell High School, was halted abruptly recently by Supreme Court order issued by Justice William F. Love, in Corning, against the Board of Education. The court order stipulates that the board shall not interfere with the plaintiff as principal.

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Traveler

College Girl Schooled in 8 Cities

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Nada Petrovich, twenty-year-old Marquette University liberal arts sophomore, hopes that she is in here to stay, at least until she is graduated in 1939 and can go on to graduate work at the Sorbonne in Paris. But Nada can't be sure, reports a university bulletin. Since her birth at Saloniki, Greece, and her early schooling in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, she has been constantly on the go. Her father's duties as a priest in the Greek Orthodox Church have carried him to assignments and her to classrooms in Cleveland, Ohio; Buffalo, St. Louis, Omaha, Kansas City, Mo.; Lawrence, Kan., and now to Milwaukee. With her parents and brother, Nada motored across the Alps in 1935. She will visit Europe this Summer with her father.

Expelled

Cambridge Boy Refuses Flag Salute

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — George Romard, fourteen, sixth grade pupil at the Ellis school here, was expelled from school for refusing to salute the flag during morning ceremonies recently.

Simultaneously, District-Attorney David H. Kealy announced at Northampton that the cases against the three Belchertown children sentenced to reform school for the same offence would be dropped, but that their father, Ignace Opieluski, a dairy farmer, would be prosecuted on a charge of failing to provide proper schooling for them. All four children are members of Jehovah's Witnesses, a sect which refuses allegiance to the flag because of the Biblical instructions to bow down to nothing except God.

Different Study

Polite Policemen Object of School

MUSKEGON, Mich.—Local policemen are going back to school again—and not merely to study law enforcement. They're going to study such subjects as grammar, history, and courtesy. Some of the advanced students may even go into the subject of logic and psychology, but grammar and courtesy will be the courses to be stressed by M. N. McIllwain, counselor at the Muskegon Senior High School, who will be instructor. Compulsory classes will be held one day every week for ten weeks and attention will be given to such subjects as human nature and human weaknesses. These will be taught in an effort to improve the relations between police officers and the public.

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Millions in Nation's Schools Listen to Radio Commencement

WASHINGTON. — Several million American school children, in thousands of schools throughout the country, sat recently simultaneously in special assemblies in four separate time zones to hear the first National School Assembly program arranged by the United States Office of Education.

Broadcasting over the Blue network of the National Broadcasting Company, the government, in its "innovation" on the air, endeavored to present a commencement program for the smaller schools throughout the States, which ordinarily could not obtain speakers with a national point of view.

Edward A. Filene, Boston merchant who founded and is now president of the Twentieth Century Fund, speaking from New York, apologized for the failures of his generation and hailed the arrival of a day "when power has passed into the hands of the people and we business men must obey."

Secretary Ickes and Dr. J. W. Studebaker, Federal Commissioner of Education, speaking from Washington, warned of the urgency of preserving democracy and pointed to countries where its principles are being attacked.

Dr. Walter B. Pitkin, of Columbia University, speaking from New York, outlined "The Occupational Outlook for Youth," and answered questions put by representatives of the National Student Federation of America, the Future Farmers of America, the Young Women's Christian Association and the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Mr. Filene told the youthful radio audience that, because of changes in the world, the older generation was not in a position to advise young people how to live their lives.

Secretary Ickes likened the momentous scale of the new school broadcast to the bigness of Boulder Dam. He added that the two great responsibilities for youth were conservation of natural resources and preservation of "the sturdy traditions of democracy."

Shorthand

Worcester City Council Split Over Issue of Systems

WORCESTER, Mass.—The system used in teaching shorthand in the public schools would seem to be a matter far removed from politics, yet members of Worcester's City Council have become sharply divided along party lines over a vote of the School Committee to drop the system now in use in the day schools in favor of another system. Although this matter comes within the jurisdiction of the School Committee, Alderman Maurice V. O'Toole, Democrat, has demanded that Mayor John S. Sullivan conduct an investigation to determine the reasons for a change in the shorthand system. The demand of Alderman O'Toole was in the form of an order filed with the City Clerk, and in addition to demanding that the Mayor conduct the investigation personally, it asks him "to do all in his power" to substitute a third system for the one now in use.

Attendance Holds

Optional Plan Has Good Effect on Students

CHICAGO. — Under the optional class attendance plan at the University of Chicago, inaugurated by President Robert M. Hutchins in 1931, a collegian may skip a class and use the time as he prefers, but the university authorities assert he does no such thing. Instead, he is in class as regularly as ever. When the optional attendance system was put into effect—with its major provision that a student be permitted to progress through the university as rapidly as his individual abilities would permit—there were those who said the professors might find their voices echoing in empty classrooms. What has happened, university officials say, is that instruction has taken on new life and attendance is as high as it was in the "good old days," when penalties were provided for skipping a certain number of classes.

In Protest

Michigan Pupils Go Out on Strike

MONROE, Mich. — Protesting the dismissal of a grade school teacher, pupils in Luna Pier School left their classrooms. The walk-out occurred when pupils learned that James Sheridan had not been re-elected for the 1937-38 term. All but fifteen of 100 grade and high school students participated in the strike.

Headmasters

Private School Heads To Meet at Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY, Vt.—Headmasters from more than sixty private preparatory schools will meet at Middlebury College June 27-29 for the annual meeting of the Country Day School Headmasters Association. On the program are discussions of adjustments in the curriculum of mathematics, science, history and language, a new rating system, teacher tenure, social security plans and general country day school business policies.

Knows America

Latvian Dictator Studied in United States

AMHERST, Mass. — The story of how a young student of agriculture "worked his way" in this country prior to becoming one of Europe's dictators was told here recently by one of his former teachers, Professor Julius H. Frandsen, head of the dairy industry department at Massachusetts State College. The dictator is Karlis Ulmanis, who has assumed the presidency in addition to his previous post as prime minister in Latvia. Ulmanis was in the class of 1909 at the University of Nebraska, and was a dairy student of Professor Frandsen. "Even back at that time," Professor Frandsen relates, "Ulmanis showed noticeable characteristics of leadership. He was aggressive, energetic, and tireless in his efforts to master the details of all his dairy work."

Brief Strike

Diplomas at Stake So Pupils Return

LEICESTER, Mass.—Two hundred pupils of Leicester High School, who went on strike one morning recently, because they objected to the dismissal of three teachers, returned to classes the next day. School officials had warned them they would not be promoted or graduated if they did not end their strike. The teachers were not reinstated.

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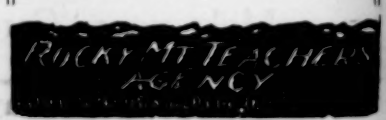

WM. RUFFER, Ph. D., Manager

Book Reviews

Tuneful Thoughts

ESSENTIAL SONGS. By Percy Graham, College of Music, Boston University, and Director of Public School Music, Lynn, Mass. New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, Boston, Atlanta, Dallas, San Francisco: American Book Company.

"Essential Songs" is aimed to interest and instruct the beginner in vocal music. It consists of a succession of one-part songs, not old favorites but newly written ones, the verses are by several teachers who understand children's experiences and ways of thinking.

The adult who examines the book to discover its underlying purpose will discern an effort to convey correct ideas and standards in such matters as health, manners and social attitudes. Done in the skillful fashion here employed and well within the child's own world, there can be no valid objection to a procedure for reaching the heart and mind of the child through the daily singing lesson.

A book of this sort is built around a plan. It finds its material by making it—thus avoiding the dangers and difficulties of the ready-made, which is apt to be less consistently well graded.

• •

What Makes Greatness?

THE QUICK AND THE DEAD. By Gamaliel Bradford. Edited by Roland Ketchum, Eastern District High School, Brooklyn, New York. Boston, New York, Chicago, Dallas, Atlanta, San Francisco: Houghton Mifflin Company.

High school teachers will welcome this group of biographical sketches by Gamaliel Bradford, now conveniently accessible to students in this helpfully edited form.

To search the lives of forceful men, men who have won high places for themselves through some outstanding service to their fellow men, is in itself a rewarding task for boys and girls facing the problem of their own careers and character patterns. But to embark upon such an expedition with Gamaliel Bradford as their guide, is a far from ordinary privilege. Bradford's genius for bringing out the individual traits and motivating drives of those individuals he chooses to depict, lends distinction to all his writings and endows them with special values for those whose own lives are still plastic.

To sound the depths of Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Calvin Coolidge, and Benito Mussolini, as Gamaliel Bradford has here done it, is to come away with rich knowledge of human qualities and attributes common to all men but seldom carried to their full fruition as they have been in the examples cited.

Not mere chronicles of events, but effectual attempts to get behind the scenes and see what pulls the strings of action, these biographies—or "psychographies" as they are more accurately called—are decidedly "quick," not "dead."

• •

Themes from Thistles

LEARNING TO WRITE. By Reed Smith, University of South Carolina, Columbia. Boston: Little, Brown and Company.

Of all studies in the world, creative writing is the most individual. Hence a manual that attempts to teach this subject must somehow penetrate into the very heart of the learner.

Reed Smith's book, "Learning to Write," contains the customary technical material, the rules that must be followed by every writer. But there are tests by which each student may determine how much of this material he still needs to master.

The text is at its best, perhaps, in impressing upon the learner the necessity of hard work if one is to write acceptably and effectively. The hard work begins with thinking — amassing and organizing the subject matter; putting the thought into a first draft. Then comes the revision, and this, for the average writer, is the hardest task of all. But the author of "Learning to Write," while in no sense concealing these difficulties, makes the student see the value of overcoming them.

All told, this should prove a practical and inspiring guide to the writing of better themes in secondary schools. Perchance it will help some persons to discover and develop their special gifts along this line.

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Two Romantic Tragedies

ROMEO AND JULIET AND CYRANO DE BERGERAC. Translated by Howard Thayer Kingsbury. Edited by Thomas L. Doyle and M. David Hoffman. New York: Noble and Noble, Inc.

Comparison is so important an element of study that we are surprised it has been so little utilized in the fashion here employed — namely, the parallel presentation of two literary classics in a single volume. Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" and Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac" are apt selections for such joint consideration, since they are love tragedies both, intense and inspired; each including descriptive atmosphere, rapid action, rich comedy to relieve the strain of sadness.

The editorial material is helpful, interpretive, not pedantic. The student should come away from this dual text with mental enrichment, deepened literary appreciation, greater insight into life. Of what other use, we might ask, is the study of the written word in any language?

• •

Of Journals and Ledgers

BOOKKEEPING FOR IMMEDIATE USE. Advanced Course. By John G. Kirk, Director of Commercial Education, Philadelphia, and William R. O'Dell, Assistant Professor of Commercial Education, Columbia University. Chicago, Atlanta, San Francisco, Dallas, Toronto, Philadelphia: The John C. Winston Company.

Remarkably attractive in outward dress and inward illustration and arrangement is this Advanced Course treatise on bookkeeping. As the title suggests, it is a very concrete and practical text, and one that is well aimed at giving as directly as possible a firm grasp of needed principles and methods.

Not only the student in school but the person outside of school who is faced with the task of running a small business or keeping accounts for a family or a club, should find this an excellent guide past many a financial pitfall.

• •

Analysis of Modern Problems

PROBLEMS OF OUR TIMES. Three volumes. By Dudley S. Brainard and Leslie D. Zeleny, State Teachers College, St. Cloud, Minnesota. New York and London: McGraw-Hill Company, Inc.

This three-volume series is topped off with the text which treats of Economic and Social Planning—a glance at whose contents might suggest that the authors are mainly concerned with the issues involved in the Roosevelt "New Deal." However, the discussion is free from political bias and freely critical, though essentially agreeing that the planning of this nation's social and economic life is necessary if the people are to protect themselves from various injustices and ills.

As in the case of the two previous volumes which dealt with National and International Issues respectively, the student is left to draw his own conclusions at many points.

The aim of the authors has been to lay an orderly foundation for the study of current events.

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President's Gift

Fremont Girl Receives Dollar Bill

FREMONT, O.—Seventeen-year-old Nestle Lee is proudly displaying a crisp, new one-dollar bill, a graduation present from President Roosevelt. She told her classmates at nearby Green Springs High School that the President replied that he would be unable to attend, but sent the bill, congratulated her on her graduation, and extended good wishes to the remainder of the class.

Oaths Futile

Swearing Not to Fight In War Disapproved

WASHINGTON.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, in one of her weekly broadcasts, turned to a discussion of peace. Interviewed by John P. Southmayd, she was asked if she approved of the oaths some college students have taken not to fight in any war. Mrs. Roosevelt said: "I do not approve of taking oaths of any kind until you know the circumstances under which you will have to redeem your promises. I think student oaths are unwise, because no young person knows what conditions may confront him at any given time. You can promise that you will do all within your power to preserve peace, and help bring it about. But you never can tell what position you may find yourself in. You may be practically pushed into an actual fight which you do not seek, but which you are obligated to accept."

Tribute

Dr. Wood Honored For Work at College

COLUMBIA, Mo.—A college president who in twenty-five years has transformed his institution from the smallest to the largest private junior college in the United States was feted recently. Students, faculty, and alumnae, with a number of persons prominent in the junior college movement, held a week's celebration in honor of President James Madison Wood at Stephens College here. To President Wood the college credits its increase in enrollment from fifty to 950 students; the expansion of the territory from which students are enrolled from four to forty states; the enlargement of the campus from four to 200 acres, and the addition of ten new buildings.

"Talking Books"

Greater Supply Available to Blind

WASHINGTON.—Under a bill recently approved by Congress, the Library of Congress will be given $175,000 for the coming fiscal year to publish and distribute "talking books," or sound-reproduction records, for the adult blind. About 50 per cent of the 120,000 people in the United States now blind lost their sight after passing middle age, and most of them had previously read the standard English classics. In 1935 there were 1,500 blind people with talking books, while this year, it is estimated, owners number 18,000.

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Grins Between Grinds

Some Feat

"Com-pa-nee, atten-shun!" bawled the drill sergeant to the awkward squad. "Com-pa-nee, lift up your left leg and hold it straight in front of you!"

By mistake one rookie held up his right leg, which brought it out side by side with his neighbor's left leg.

"Aw right, aw right; who's the one over there holding up both legs?" shouted the sergeant.

• •

Cheerful Worker

"You have turned very industrious lately, Tim," said one Tipperary man to another in New York.

"That I have," replied the other. "I was up before the court last week for battering Cassidy, and the judge told me if I came back on the same charge he would fine me $10.

"Did he?" said the first speaker. "And ye're working hard so as to keep your hands off Cassidy?"

"Don't believe it," said the industrious Irishman. "I'm working hard to save up the $10!"

• •

Neighborhood Harmony

On a card in the front window of a suburban home appeared the following notice:—

"A piano for sale."

In the window next door another card appeared with just one word:—

"Hurrah!"

• •

The Distinction

Mike—"What is the difference between vision and sight?"

Pat—"Remember those two goils we had out last night?"

Mike—"Yes."

Pat—"Well, the one I was with was a vision, but the one you was with was a sight."

• •

Allspice

Teacher—"Can any one tell me what happened after Napoleon mustered his army?"

Pupil—"Yes, sir, he peppered the enemy and took the citadel by assault."

Teacher—"Sit down, my lad, I'll have no sauce from you."

• •

Hard to Locate

A young Canadian girl, a resident of Kingston, Ont., while visiting some friends in England desired to send a cable home, and, having written it out, handed it to a clerk in the cable office.

The clerk appeared to be rather worried about it, and after consulting various reference books, said to the girl: "I can find Kingston-on-Hull and Kingston-on-Thames, but I cannot locate Kingston-on-Tario."